

More Bosnian Tales (Holey Ones)

by Lieut. Col. J. Hewgill, M.B.E., Retd.

PERFINS

During a recent enforced rest, I have sorted my Bosnian stamps and put all my perfins together. For the uninitiated PERFINS are stamps with PERforated INitials -- used to deter light-fingered villains.

I have identified the following:

P.L.B.	Priviligertes Landesbank
P.A.K.B.	Privat Agrar und Kornevzial Bank
E.Z.	Eisenindustric Zenice

Can anyone identify the following from covers or otherwise please:

CbM	Posted in Mostar
HFS	All mint 1900 Issue
SRP	Posted in Sarajevo
ST	Posted in Sarajevo
LB	cds not identifiable
FM	Posted in Mostar
LH	Posted in Sarajevo 1
MKR	Posted in Sarajevo 1

MANUSCRIPT CANCELS

I have also sorted out a lot of manuscript cancels. These can arise for four main reasons.

1. Mail posted at Postablagen (or Post Office) before cancellers were received.
2. By post offices receiving uncanceled letters.
3. By station staff who emptied post boxes (at mainline stations and 'Haltstelle') before handing them over to T.P.O.s. I have no hard confirmation of this, only comments on exhibition displays. However, I have 30 stamps with 'Bhf' or 'Banhof' written on the stamp where there was no station post office.
4. Where stamps were used for other purposes.

The following are apparent examples of the last category, with no document attached to explain the usage.

EINZUGS GEBUHR - translates as Entry Fee

I have 13 of these on 5 kreuzer red and 6 others, so it is apparently a normal usage.

With postmarks I have singles of 5 kreuzer red with ZVORNIK (2), GLAMOC, PODROMANJA (2) - 1 dated 8/8/90.

In pairs on 10 heller red 1990, three from KUPRES dated 6th, 7th, and 29th, 12.04. The 29.12.04 is on a parcel card piece from TRAVNIK.

On singles of 10 heller red, including FPE, NIB, PRIBOJ, and ZVORNIK dated 1.01.

Can anyone suggest why an entry fee should be paid using stamps, usually with no date, but including the above examples with cancellations?

RUCKSCHEIN

I have this on one example of the 1890 10 kreuzer blue. Has anyone seen this on a Ruckschein or other returned or receipted document?

AVIS REQUITUR - Advice of settlement?

I have one example on 1890 10 kreuzer blue. In U.K. stamps were used to pay revenue duty on cheques and receipts. I have not found any equivalent requirement in Bosnian references, since there were fiscal stamps readily available. I have no examples of this on the 400 odd fiscals in my collection.